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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Massaro et al Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned Serial No.: Not Assigned I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Submitted Herewith Filed: Express mail (Label No. EL385557991US) in an envelope addressed to: Box Patent Application; Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. **METHODS AND** For: 20231 on: COMPOSITIONS FOR THE TREATMENT AND PREVENTION Date of Deposit: OF LUNG DISEASE Examiner: Not Assigned Date of Signature:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Patent Application Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

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Please enter the Preliminary Amendment for the above-identified patent application.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please insert as the first paragraph following the title:

This application is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/548,897, filed April 13, 2000, which claimed priority under 35 USC § 119(e) to Provisional Application No. 60/129,213 filed April 14, 1999.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly cancel claims 29 and 30 in the present application without prejudice to the refiling of these claims in a continuing or divisional application.